

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 299069

11

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 DODE-00 NSC-05 /065 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:VLEHOVICH

APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:WSHINN

----- 054382

R 090013Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 299069

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN PROGRAM GROUP

REF: A) ROME 19278; B) ROME 19282

1. UK EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED US WITH DEBRIEF ON NOVEMBER 22-23 EPG MEETING IN ROME.

2. UK'S GENERAL APPROACH TO MEETING WAS THAT EPG HAD REACHED A CRITICAL POINT IN ITS DEVELOPMENT, WITH PROJECT GROUPS ESTABLISHED AND WITH EXPECTATIONS AROUSED; AND THAT TASK AHEAD WAS TO ENSURE THAT OBJECTIVES OF EPG WOULD BE FULFILLED. THESE OBJECTIVES, ACCORDING TO UK, ARE TO PROMOTE SUCCESSFUL EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN ARMAMENTS, AND TO BUILD A SOUND DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE IN EUROPE; AND, IN NATO CONTEXT, TO PROMOTE STANDARDIZATION OF EQUIPMENT AND A MORE RATIONAL USE OF DEVELOPMENT AND PROCUREMENT RESOURCES SO AS TO STRENGTHEN ALLIED CAPABILITY TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE MILITARY BALANCE. IN BRITISH VIEW, WAY TO ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES IS BY SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS ORIGINATING IN THE EPG, AND BY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 299069

GRADUALLY EXTENDING THE RANGE OF EPG PROJECTS.

3. UK TOLD US THAT WHILE ROME MEETING ON THE SURFACE CON-

TRIBUTED NOTHING TO THESE OBJECTIVES, POLITICAL WILL TO MAKE SUCCESS OF THE EPG REMAINED STRONG. GREAT MAJORITY OF MEMBERS AT ROME MEETING PREFERRED A PRACTICAL TO A THEORETICAL APPROACH AND DECLINED TO GIVE S:RIOU" CONSIDERATION TO A DOCUMENT SETTING OUT GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION. (WE HAVE NO FURTHER DETAILS ON THIS DOCUMENT, INCLUDING WHO ORIGINATED IT.) SEVERAL DELEGATIONS AGREED WITH UK THAT EPG PROJECT GROUPS WOULD NEED TO WORK IN PURPOSEFUL MANNER AND PRODUCE SPECIFIC RESULTS ACCORDING TO A SET TIMETABLE.

4. MOST TIME-CONSUMING ITEM AT MEETING WAS INTERNAL AGREED MINUTE (REF A). FRENCH HAD EARLIER GIVEN UK PRIVATE CLEARANCE TO A PUBLIC COMMUNIQUE THAT WOULD SIGNAL A FORTHCOMING EUROPEAN REACTION TO RECENT US CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION FACILITATING WAIVER OF BUY AMERICAN PROVISIONS. IN ROME, FRENCH HAD TO BACKTRACK ON COMMUNIQUE BECAUSE OF BYE-ELECTION SITUATION IN FRANCE, AND FOUND THEMSELVES ISOLATED. FRENCH, HOWEVER, AGREED TO A MORE SPECIFIC DECISION THAN BEFORE ON RESPONSIBILITY OF EPG CHAIRMAN TO INFORM IN DETAIL US, CANADA, AND SYG LUNS ON EPG PROCEEDINGS, AND TO INFORM NATO CNADS. FRANCE ALSO ACQUIESCED IN A MANDATE TO EPG ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS TO MEET IN MARCH TO STUDY BEST WAYS TO DEVELOP A TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE ON DEFENSE PROCUREMENT ISSUES AND TO FORMULATE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS TO BE PUT TO STATE SECRETARIES. FRANCE ALSO AGREED, AFTER DIFFICULT DISCUSSION, TO REFERENCE IN AGREED MINUTE TO RECENT US LEGISLATION, AND TO EPG'S GOAL OF CREATING A MORE SUCCESSFUL AND COMPETITIVE EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY CONSISTENT WITH THE WIDER INTERESTS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE. SUBSEQUENTLY, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT BY OTHERS NOT TO PRESS FRENCH FURTHER ON MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMUNIQUE, AND AGREEMENT THAT EACH PARTICIPANT WOULD DRAW ON INTERNAL AGREED MINUTE AS IT SAW FIT WITH ITS PARLIAMENT AND PRESS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 299069

ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING REPORTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DEBRIEFINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE299069
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: VLEHOVICH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760454-1248
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761258/aaaabxno.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ROME 19278, 76 ROME 19282
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EUROPEAN PROGRAM GROUP
TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, UK
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006